Meeting Minutes

Meeting organized by	Andrea Cavalli, Julien Poffet	**Participants**	Paolo Calafiura, Yushu Yao
Date	November 26, 2008	**Office**	50B-3216, 50B-6220

Subjects

- We presented our propositions for realizing the environment backups.
    - We don't think to use the VMware API to copy files from the VM to the host and vice versa. This would work only with VMware, but not with the other virtualization platforms, and we didn't found any correspondent feature for the other virtualization platforms.
    - We propose to use a Python library called "rdiff-backup" for making the files copy. The library works with rsync and the files transferred between the VM and the host are only those which have been changed since the last transfer. rdiff-backup can manage multiple versions of a directory by taking incremental backups of the directory content.

- rdiff-backup has some drawbacks:
    - The transfer of the files is done through a secure channel, using SSH. To be able to open this channel, we must deal with the authorization of the user to access the VM. Automating this process will be hard.
    - Windows does not natively support SSH. To run rdiff-backup on Windows, we may need to use PuTTY. This is a disadvantages because we want to limit the number of external application to install for using VML.

- Mr. Yao explained that CernVM provides a way to transfer files between the host and the virtual machine with a simple way to manage the authentication. They use a file system called Chirp for doing that.